

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A computer-implemented software tool for use in configuring firewalls, comprising:

an interface executing on a computer which communicates with a database to obtain the identification of firewall devices associated with a network and generate a first image on a display of the computer which lists said devices; and

means responsive to the selection of one of the devices in said list to generate a second image on said display which lists conduits within said device, wherein each conduit is identified by descriptive names stored in said database for local and external devices and/or networks that are logically connected by the conduit.

2. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 1, further including means responsive to the selection of one of the devices listed in said first display to generate a third image on said display which lists internal networks owned by an entity associated with the selected device, and means to selectively open and close conduits respectively corresponding to said internal networks.

3. (Original) The tool of claim 2 wherein said means to selectively open and close conduits comprises a graphical object adjacent each listing of an internal

network that can be selected by a user to toggle between open and closed states for the listed network.

4. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 2 wherein said third image further includes means for adding a new conduit to one of the internal networks.

5. (Original) The tool of claim 4 wherein said means for adding a new conduit to one of the internal networks includes an identification of each protocol that can be associated with the new conduit, and graphical objects via which a user can select each of said protocols.

6. (Original) A method for configuring firewalls, comprising the following steps:

communicating with a database to obtain the identification of firewall devices associated with a network;

generating a first display which lists said devices; and

detecting the selection of one of the devices in said list; and

generating a second display which lists conduits within said device, wherein each conduit is identified by descriptive names stored in said database for local and external devices and/or networks that are logically connected by the conduit.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, further including the steps of generating a third display which lists internal networks owned by an entity associated with the selected device, in response to the selection of one of the devices listed in

said first display, and which enables a user to selectively open and close conduits respectively corresponding to said internal networks.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein said third display includes a graphical object adjacent each listing of an internal network that can be selected by a user to toggle between open and closed states for the listed network.

9. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein said third display further enables a user to add a new conduit to one of the internal networks.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 wherein said third display includes an identification of each protocol that can be associated with the new conduit, and graphical objects via which a user can select each of said protocols.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 6 wherein said descriptive names comprise textual identification of said devices.

12. (Previously Presented) The tool of claim 1 wherein said descriptive names comprise textual identification of said devices.

13. (New) The tool of claim 1 wherein said second image comprises a table having a first column in which the descriptive names of the local devices and/or networks for the conduits of the selected firewall device are listed, and a second

column in which the descriptive names of the corresponding external devices and/or networks for the respective conduits are listed.

14. (New) The tool of claim 13, wherein said table includes a third column in which the protocols associated with respective conduits are listed.

15. (New) The method of claim 6 wherein said second display comprises a table having a first column in which the descriptive names of the local devices and/or networks for the conduits of the selected firewall device are listed, and a second column in which the descriptive names of the corresponding external devices and/or networks for the respective conduits are listed.

16. (New) The method of claim 15, wherein said table includes a third column in which the protocols associated with respective conduits are listed.